

BEFORE THE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of:

PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

v.

HERMOSA BEACH CITY SCHOOL
DISTRICT.

OAH CASE NO. 2014040742

ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR
CONTINUANCE AND SETTING
MEDIATION, PREHEARING
CONFERENCE AND HEARING

On May 15, 2014, the parties filed a stipulated request to continue all dates that would result in the hearing being continued for over 90 days. No reason was given for why the hearing could not be held within a 90 day continuance.

A due process hearing must be conducted and a decision rendered within 45 days of receipt of the due process notice unless an extension is granted for good cause. (34 C.F.R. § 300.515(a) & (c) (2006); Ed. Code, §§ 56502, subd. (f), 56505, subd. (f)(3); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1020.) As a result, continuances are disfavored. Good cause may include the unavailability of a party, counsel, or an essential witness due to death, illness or other excusable circumstances; substitution of an attorney when the substitution is required in the interests of justice; a party's excused inability to obtain essential testimony or other material evidence despite diligent efforts; or another significant, unanticipated change in the status of the case as a result of which the case is not ready for hearing. (See Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.1332(c).) OAH considers all relevant facts and circumstances, including the proximity of the hearing date; previous continuances or delays; the length of continuance requested; the availability of other means to address the problem giving rise to the request; prejudice to a party or witness as a result of a continuance; the impact of granting a continuance on other pending hearings; whether trial counsel is engaged in another trial; whether the parties have stipulated to a continuance; whether the interests of justice are served by the continuance; and any other relevant fact or circumstance. (See Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.1332(d).)

OAH has reviewed the request for good cause and considered all relevant facts and circumstances. The request is:

☒ Granted. All dates are vacated. This matter will be set as follows:

Mediation: July 15, 2014 at 9:30 AM
[NOTE – OAH not available on parties' preferred date.]

Prehearing Conference: August 29, 2014 at 3:00 PM

Due Process Hearing: September 8-11, 15, 16, 2014 at 1:30 PM first day, 9:00 AM other days, and continuing day to day, Monday through Thursday, as needed at the discretion of the Administrative Law Judge.

[NOTE: Dates changed. OAH does not conduct hearings on Fridays and Saturdays, as requested. In addition, no good cause was provided for the hearing to start more than 90 days from the original date.]

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATE: May 15, 2014

/s/

RICHARD T. BREEN
Presiding Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings